November 23, 2009 Senate Board Meeting

Educational Policies Committee (EPC): With regard to procedures for adding students to classes, the EPC recommended that the most fair and expeditious method would be the use of an unpaid wait list of 10-30% or more, of the class size, based on the Division’s preference. Following discussion, it became clear that the matter needed further work at the committee level. The EPC will consider including some reference to faculty having the final decision about who they add to a class.

Distance Education (DE) Committee: The Senate Board voted for the following: (1) the inclusion of DE in the mission statement of the College, (2) revision of the DE Committee mission statement, and (3) acceptance of revised definitions of delivery modalities of online, hybrid, and ITV. A new DE proposal was presented, but not voted on, that, if passed, would require DE faculty to be trained and encourages faculty to use the same learning management system (currently, Blackboard/ WebCT). Relatively high levels of platform consistency across DE courses should make it easier for students who can utilize skills acquired in one course in another.

Faculty Technology Committee (FTC): The Senate Board voted to support the creation of a Chief Technology Officer (CTO), who would report directly to PCC’s President and not to the VP for Administrative Services. It is believed that this model would enhance communication between the CTO and the three area Vice-Presidents (Instruction, Student and Learning Services, and Administration Services), resulting in greater college-wide coordination of technology planning and a greater emphasis on addressing the needs of instructional programs. The FTC supports including a requirement that the CTO have an educational background. Further, if financial concerns remain high, the FTC recommended that current personnel members could perform the duties of a CTO until the job could be fully advertised and floated.

Senate Ad Hoc SLO Committee: A proposal was presented to the Senate Board for revising and streamlining the Philosophy Statement on Student Learning and Support Service Outcomes. The old and new philosophy statements will be reviewed at a future Board meeting.

Statewide Academic Senate (ASCCC) Institutes: Institutes are open to faculty, classified and management. This Winter, Spring & Summer there will be institutes on Equity and Diversity, Vocational Education, Accreditation, Faculty Leadership, SLOs, and Curriculum. Senate conference funds are very limited.

ASCCC Resolution: In Spring 2009 the ASCCC passed a resolution “recommending changes to Title 5 language that would allow for faculty to rely on content review rather than statistical analysis to establish (course) prerequisites”. At the Fall 2009 ASCCC Plenary Session, a follow-up resolution proposed that the ASCCC revisit the content review process to develop and eventually implement rigorous content review standards that can be used should content review become the primary method of validating prerequisites. The matter was assigned to the ASCCC Curriculum Committee for further research and study.

Announcements:
The last Senate Board meeting of the semester is Monday, December 7, 2009.